Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-32. (Cancelled)

- 33. (Currently Amended) A process for inducing a neutralizing antibody response in a subject against HIV comprising administering a vaccine immunogenic composition directly to mucous membranes, wherein the immunogenic vaccine composition comprises:
- (a) an antigen that comprises a C-terminal truncated gp160 protein, wherein the C-terminal truncated gp160 protein has a molecular mass of about 140 kDa and includes comprises the endogenous hydrophobic amino acid sequence set forth at positions 523-551 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (b) proteosomes, wherein the proteosomes are complexed or coupled with the antigen; and
 - (c) bioadhesive nanoemulsions,

wherein the <u>immunogenic</u> composition elicits neutralizing antibodies to HIV in a subject upon administration of the <u>immunogenic</u> composition to the subject, and wherein the neutralizing antibodies are present in one or more of vaginal secretions, intestinal secretions, lung secretions, and feces.

- 34. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 33 wherein the <u>immunogenic vaccine</u>-composition is administered by an intranasal or respiratory route.
- 35. (New) The process according to claim 33 wherein the antigen further comprises an exogenous hydrophobic anchor that is a C8-C18 fatty acyl group.

- 36. (New) The process according to claim 33 wherein the antigen further comprises an exogenous hydrophobic anchor that is (a) lauroyl, (b) Phe Leu Leu Ala Val (SEQ ID NO:2), or (c) Val-Ala-Leu-Leu-Phe (SEQ ID NO:3).
- 37. (New) The process according to claim 33 wherein the amino acid sequence of said C-terminal truncated gp160 protein consists essentially of the sequence set forth at residues 33-681 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 38. (New) The process according to claim 33 wherein the C-terminal truncated gp160 protein is an oligomeric C-terminal truncated gp160 from HIV-1.
- 39. (New) The process according to claim 33 wherein the C-terminal truncated gp160 protein is recombinantly produced.
- 40. (New) The process according to either claim 35 or claim 36, wherein said immunogenic composition is formed by
- (a) adding the exogenous hydrophobic anchor to the C-terminal truncated gp160 protein to form an anchored C-terminal truncated gp160 protein; and
- (b) admixing the anchored C-terminal truncated gp160 protein with said proteosomes such that the anchored C-terminal truncated gp160 protein is complexed with said proteosomes; and
- (c) combining the anchored C-terminal truncated gp160 protein complexed with said proteosomes with the bioadhesive nanoemulsions.
- 41. (New) The process according to claim 40 wherein said admixing step is performed in the presence of a detergent, and is followed by the step of removing the detergent by dialysis.
- 42. (New) The process according to claim 40 wherein said admixing step is performed by lyophilization.